

REMARKS

Page 2 of the office action notes that the present application claims benefit of prior application No. 10/242,060 filed September 12, 2002 and suggests insertion of a reference to the prior application at the beginning of the present specification. Applicants' amendment to the specification filed August 6, 2004 is such an amendment. As stated in the amendment, a petition and surcharge are not required as the filing receipt recognizes the prior application.

The requirement for formal drawings at page 3 of the office action is acknowledged. Formal drawings were filed on October 7, 2004.

Regarding the objection to the drawings:

The specification at page 6 has been amended to change "channel 282" to "channel 284 (FIGURES 8 and 9)". The objection to "annular lip 148" appears to stem from a smudge adjacent "48" in Fig. 2 of the drawing. Member "48" is shown in Fig. 2 of the formal drawings and clearly shows the annular lip 48 described in the specification at, for example, pages 2 and 3. The reforming member 228A or 228B is mentioned on page 6 of the specification and is shown in, for example, Fig. 6 of the drawings. For these reasons, reconsideration of the objections to the drawing and/or specification is requested.

The title has been corrected as suggested at page 5 of the office action.

In the office action claims 55-58 and 61-63 were rejected. Claims 59-60 were objected to and indicated as allowable if placed in independent form. Claim 59 has been amended to be in independent form and claim 60 depends from claim 59. Accordingly, claims 59-60 are in allowable form.

Claim 55 is amended by reciting the projection having a longitudinal axis and the protrusion being arcuate about the longitudinal axis and having an arc length of less than 90 degrees... and removing the support, projection and protrusion from the exposed end of the coaxial cable. Pitschi (U.S. Patent No. 6,431,911) does not teach or suggest the steps of displacing a portion of the insulation adjacent the lead end of one of the inner conductor and the outer conductor with a tool comprising a support and a projection and at least one protrusion extending from the support, the projection having a longitudinal axis and the protrusion being arcuate about the longitudinal axis and having an arc length of less than 90 degrees, by inserting the projection into the channel so that the protrusion contacts a surface adjacent said lead end of one of the inner conductor and outer conductor and displaces the portion of the insulation; and

removing the support, projection and protrusion from the exposed end of the coaxial cable. In Pitschi insulation is moved aside when contact sleeve 4 is inserted. There is no teaching or suggestion of the steps of displacing and removing as recited in currently amended claim 55.

Claims 56-58 and 61-63 are dependent on claim 55 and are allowable for, at least, the same reasons as claim 55. For all of the above reasons, claims 56-63 are allowable and forwarding the present application to issue is, respectfully, requested.

An information disclosure statement was filed on October 7, 2004 and the examiner is requested to initial the form PTO-1449 indicating consideration of the cited references.

The examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney to discuss any outstanding issues or concerns so that allowance of the present application may be expedited.

It is requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response with the fee for such extensions and shortages in other fees, being charged, or any overpayment in fees being credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 02-1010 (8392-69552).

Respectfully submitted

BARNES & THORNBURG

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard B. Lazarus", written in a cursive style.

Richard B. Lazarus

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